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Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 06576 081525 Z

44
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-15 H-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 NSC-10 DODE-00 PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01 OMB-01

TRSE-00 IO-12 EB-11 SAJ-01 RSR-01 /106 W
---------- 005216
R 081503 Z MAY 73
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4899
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USMISSION BERLIN
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 06576

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ETEL, PFOR, GW, UR
SUBJECT: RADIO FREE EUROPE AND RADIO LIBERTY: BRIEFING OF FRG FONOFF ON PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION REPORT

REF: STATE 85781

1. IN CONVERSATION MAY 7 WITH FRG FONOFF REP VON DUNGERN, EMBOFF SUMMARIZED MAIN POINTS OF EISENHOWER COMMISSION REPORT. VON DUNGERN THOUGHT REPORT PROVIDED SOUND BASIS FOR CONTINUED OPERATION OF RADIOS. HE WAS ALREADY FAMILIAR, THROUGH REPORTING FROM FRG EMBASSY WASHINGTON, WITH PROPOSAL FOR EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTAL PARTICIPATION IN FINANCING OF RESEARCH. HIS INITIAL REACTION WAS CAUTIOUS BUT NOT UNFAVORABLE AND SHOWED
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APPRECIATION FOR FACT THAT EUROPEAN FUNDING IN THIS FORM WOULD BE LESS BURDENSOME POLITICALLY THAN DIRECT SUPPORT FOR BROADCASTING OPERATIONS. HE SAID HE HAD DISCUSSED THE IDEA WITH A NUMBER OF HIS FONOFF COLLEAGUES, MOST OF WHOM REACTED IN THE SAME WAY. THERE IS OF COURSE NO OFFICIAL FONOFF OR FRG POSITION ON THE PROPOSAL YET.

2. VON DUNGERN OBSERVED THAT THERE WOULD HAVE TO BE SOME DISCUSSION AND COORDINATION AMONG EUROPEAN STATES IF THEY WERE TO CONTRIBUTE TO RFE/ RL RESEARCH. HIS PERSONAL VIEW WAS THAT THIS MIGHT BE AN APPROPRIATE, AND EVEN WELCOME, TASK FOR THE WEU, AND HE SAID THAT HE HAD ALREADY PUT THIS AS A TENTATIVE PROPOSAL IN BRIEF- ING PAPERS FOR FONMIN SCHEEL. HE THOUGHT THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE WOULD BE AN UNDESIRABLE FORUM FOR THIS PURPOSE BECAUSE OF THAT BODY' S TENDENCY TO DRAG IN GREECE AND PORTUGAL WHENEVER RFE AND RL ARE DISCUSSED.

3. VON DUNGERN MENTIONED REPORT FROM FRG EMBASSY MOSCOW WHICH LED FONOFF TO BELIEVE RADIOS MIGHT COME UP DURING BREZHNEV' S MAY 18-22 VISIT TO BONN. ACCORDING TO REPORT, FRG EMBASSY MOSCOW HAS LATELY RECEIVED LARGE NUMBER OF LETTERS, USING SAME TEXT AND COMING MAINLY FROM CAUCASUS, TO THE EFFECT THAT THE WRITERS FAVOR IMPROVEMENT IN FRG- USSR RELATIONS BUT CONSIDER SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT DIFFICULT SO LONG AS RL CONTINUES TO " TROUBLE THE ATMOSPHERE". VON DUNGERN SAID FONOFF SEES THIS LETTER CAMPAIGN AS POSSIBLE INDICATION OF SOVIET INTENTIONS DURING VISIT AND IS PREPARING BRIEF TALKINX POINTS ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:
A) FRG SEES RADIOS AS WELCOME EXPRESSION OF US INTEREST IN EUROPE.
B) THE RADIOS ARE A MATTER FOR CONSULTATION WITHIN THE WESTERN ALLIANCE.
C) IF USSR HAS SPECIFIC COMPLAINTS, IT IS WELCOME TO RAISE THEM.

4. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION MAY 7, SOVIET EMBASSY COUNSELOR BONN TOLD EMBOFF THAT THOUGHT HAD BEEN GIVEN TO RAISING THE SUBJECT OF THE RADIOS DURING THE BREZHNEV
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VISIT BUT THAT HE SERIOUSLY DOUBTED WHETHER THIS WOULD HAPPEN.
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL
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C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 06576

E. O. 11652: GDS
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OF FRG FONOFF ON PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION REPORT

REF: STATE 85781

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HAPPEN.
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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
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Office: ACTION EUR
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 971219
Subject: RADIO FREE EUROPE AND RADIO LIBERTY: BRIEFING OF FRG FONOFF ON PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION REPORT
TAGS: ETEL, UR, ETEL
To: BUDAPEST
EUR
LONDON
MOSCOW
PARIS
PRAGUE
SECSTATE WASHDC

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SOFIA
WARSAW
Type: TE
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